

Interprofessional Service Learning: Engaging Older Adults at the Champion Intergenerational Center



Purpose

Champion is a community-university collaboration providing adult-day services and early childhood care and education. Doctor of Physical Therapy and Doctor of Pharmacy students engaged in communication building activities with each other, center staff and older adults in the adult day program at the Center.

Activities included students completing biographical sketches of older adults, planning activities, and assisting with Bingo. The experience facilitated students interacting with each other as well as the older adults and staff.

Impact

Through interactions at the Center, the pharmacy and physical therapy doctoral students were able to learn more about each other's health disciplines including differences and similarities between their professional programs.

Both groups of students were able to interact with older adults some of whom have cognitive impairments to practice what they have learned through their curricula about communication techniques.

Students were able to learn to adapt games and other activities to accommodate visual or auditory limitations of the older adults.

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

Office of Geriatrics and
Interprofessional Aging Studies
College of Medicine - Elizabeth Speidel
School of Health and Rehabilitation
Sciences- College of Medicine - Erin Thomas and Carmen Bizzarri
College of Pharmacy - Ruth Emptage

Community Partners Involved

Champion Intergenerational Enrichment
and Educational Center
National Church Residences

How you can get involved:

- Consider the Champion Intergenerational Center as a site for service learning (does not have to be professional health related students)
- Partner with Champion as a volunteer site for students, organization or staff (leading or participating in an intergenerational activity, participating in our monthly all-center party, participating in activities with either older adults or young children or both)
- Support Champion financially or by in-kind donations or hosting a supply drive
- Consider Champion as a site for OSU classes or meetings

To get involved, contact:

Elizabeth Speidel
OSU Integenerational Program
Manager
elizabeth.speidel@osumc.edu



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY